Food Situation for the week ending 27th December 1919.

Brief abstract of the special reports regarding the food situation for the week ending the 27th December 1919.

Bangalore City.—During the week under report, 98 carts of ragi and 82 carts of paddy came into the bazaar, as against 110 carts of ragi and 47 carts of paddy in previous week.

The prices of ragi ranged from Rs. 70 to Rs. 93 per cart during the week against Rs. 75 to Rs. 84 per cart in the previous week.

There is sufficient stock of ragi and rice in the bazaar, but the rates are high as before.

Mysore City.—There is nothing special to report.

Bangalore District.—There was no rain during the week.

The harvesting of paddy crop is still going on and that of ragi is almost completed.

The price of ragi is steady at 7 to 10 seers a rupee. The price of Burma rice showed a tendency to rise, the prevailing rate being 4½ seers a rupee while the rate for local rice remained stationary at 3½ to 4 seers.

The markets are well supplied.

Tumkur District.—Both wet and dry crops are being harvested all over the district. New paddy is coming into the market in pretty large quantity. Prices show a downward tendency but the fall is not appreciable.

Market is being carefully watched.

Kolar District.—The price of ragi and rice has been showing a tendency to rise for the past few days.

Hassan District.—The *santes* were fairly well supplied with rice and ragi. The stock of Burma rice available in the Depot is being sold to the public. Standing crops such as avare, togari and sugar-cane are in a good condition. Vaishaki paddy is being transplanted in the Arsikere Taluk.

Prices of ragi and rice are going down, but that of horse gram is rising.

The prospects of the season are good.

Shimoga District.—The food situation remains unchanged.

Kadur District.—Paddy and ragi are being harvested in all the taluks and the yield is reported to be from 8 to 12 annas. Jola was also harvested in the Tarikere Taluk with an yield of 8 annas. The reaping of paddy is more than half completed. There is however no perceptible fall in the prices during the week.

The supply of food stuffs was quite ample in all the shandies and markets in the district.

Owing to the local rice being available at cheaper rates in Koppa and Narasimharajpura, there was no demand for Burma rice at these places.

The prospects continue to be favourable.

Chitaldrug District.—There was no rainfall during the week. The price of food stuffs continue to be same as in last week. Arrangements have been made for all the Government Depots in the district being closed by the end of the current month.

General (By Food Controller).—There has been no change in the situation and the standing crops are understood to be in good condition. There was no rain in any part of the State. The harvesting of paddy is reported to be still going on. The markets are fairly well supplied. The price of Mysore paddy is going up, it having been Rs. 21-8-0 per candy in Mysore and Rs. 50 to Rs. 60 per cartload in Bangalore and the flow is not as free as it should have been. The price of Mysore paddy about this same time last year was only Rs. 11 per candy. The demand for Burma rice is still on the increase and in the Bangalore City it is being sold by merchants at 4½ seers a rupee. The test depots worked by the Municipality are however continuing to sell at 5¼ seers a rupee and the rush at these depots is very great. The price of ragi in the Bangalore City market has remained unchanged. Ragi is reported to have been sold in other parts of the State at 7 to 11 seers per rupee.

Delta rice continues to be issued from the Provincial Grain Depot at Bangalore in small quantities for *bona fide* domestic consumption.

C. S. BALASUNDARAM IYER,
Chief Secretary to Government.